

CHAPTER 1 SECTION 11.2

VITAMIN B-12 INJECTIONS

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I. PROCEDURE CODE

90782

II. DESCRIPTION

VITAMIN B-12 is essential to cell maturation and when deficient, results in certain characteristic anemias and neurologic disorders.

III. POLICY

Vitamin B-12 injections are covered only for treatment of the following:

A. Anemias secondary to Vitamin B-12 deficiency

1. Pernicious anemia
2. Megaloblastic anemias
3. Macrocytic anemias
4. Fish tapeworm anemia

B. Gastrointestinal disorders resulting in anemias

1. Post gastrectomy
2. Malabsorption syndromes such as sprue and idiopathic steatorrhea
3. Surgical and mechanical disorders such as small intestine resections, strictures, anastomoses and blind loop syndrome

C. Neuropathies secondary to Vitamin B-12 deficiency

1. Posterolateral sclerosis

D. Neuropathies associated with pernicious anemia

E. During the acute phase or exacerbation of the following:

1. Multiple sclerosis
2. Trigeminal and glossopharyngeal neuralgia
3. Neuropathies of malnutrition and alcoholism
4. Tabes dorsalis
5. Causalgia
6. Postsympathectomy paresthesias
7. Herpes zoster
8. Diabetic neuropathy
9. Other inflammatory neuritis not due to mechanical or traumatic etiology

IV. EXCEPTION

Benefits are not covered for Vitamin B-12 injections to strengthen tendons or ligaments of the foot.

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